

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 /101 W

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R 130757Z FEB 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9128

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 1662

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: ENRG EWWT NO VN

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN INTEREST IN VIETNAMESE PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT

1. DR. JAN-OLAF WILLUMS OF THE SAGA PETROLEUM AS & CO., OSLO, VISITED FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK, HONG KONG, IN EARLY FEBRUARY TO DISCUSS PLANNED NORWEGIAN EFFORTS TO ASSIST THE VIETNAMESE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR PETROLEUM RESOURCES. ACCORDING TO A CITIBANK OFFICIAL, DR. WILLUMS EXPLAINED THAT THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT HAD SET ASIDE FOR 1976-77 80 MILLION KRONER (U.S. \$1.00 EQUALS 5.5 NORWEGIAN KRONER) FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FOR VIET-NAM, AND HIS COMPANY WAS BEING PROVIDED A PORTION OF THESE FUNDS FOR TECHNICAL SERVICES IN PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. WILLUMS CLAIMED HE RECENTLY VISITED U.S. OIL FIRMS (NO NAMES MENTIONED) IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN U.S. EXPLORATION DATA ON VIET-NAM BUT WAS TOLD THAT ALL THE MATERIALS HAD BEEN DESTROYED DURING THE U.S. PULL-OUT (A STORY THAT HE

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REPORTEDLY DID NOT BELIEVE). ACCORDING TO WILLUMS, SAGA

IS ONLY INTERESTED IN PROVIDING TECHNICAL SERVICES IN VIETNAMESE POL DEVELOPMENT AND HAS NO PLANS TO SHARE IN PRODUCTION AND SALES OPERATIONS.

2. WILLUMS HOPED CITIBANK COULD ASSIST IN ORGANIZING AND FINANCING A WESTERN OIL GROUP TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROJECT WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF SHARING WITH THE VIETNAMESE IN PRODUCTION. WILLUMS WAS REFERRED TO AN OFFICIAL OF THE ASIA PACIFIC CAPITAL CORPORATION (A JOINT MERCHANT BANK VENTURE OF CITIBANK AND FUJI BANK) WHO ADVISED HIM THAT VIET-NAM WAS OUT OF THEIR SPHERE OF OPERATIONS BUT THAT, BASED ON PRESS REPORTS, SOME BANKS CONNECTED WITH THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT MIGHT HELP HIM.

3. WILLUMS DEPARTED HONG KONG FOR PEKING WHERE HE WAS TO JOIN THREE NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS AND GO ON TO HANOI FOR DISCUSSIONS ON THE PROJECT. HE TOLD CITIBANK HE WOULD ATTEMPT TO SEEK JAPANESE FINANCING THROUGH DIPLOMATIC (PRESUMABLY NORWEGIAN) CHANNELS IN TOKYO.  
CROSS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, PETROLEUM RESERVES, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 13 FEB 1976  
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**TAGS:** ENRG, EWWT, OTRA, NO, VN, SAGA PETROLEUM AS & CO, (WILLUMS, JAN-OLAF)  
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